

BOOK REVIEW

DIANA TITTLE, with photographs by IAN ADAMS and JENNIE JONES. 2005. **A Paradise in the City: Cleveland Botanical Garden.** (ISBN 978-1882203461, hbk.). Orange Frazer Press, P.O. Box 214, Wilmington, Ohio 45177, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.orangefrazer.com, 800-852-9332, or Cleveland Botanical Garden Store, 11030 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106, www.cb garden.org, 216-707-2800). \$39.95, 160 pp., color photographs, 12" × 9".

Contents:

Foreword (by Brian E. Holley, Executive Director of Cleveland Botanical Garden)

1. Baobab in the Garden
2. Land of Enchantment
3. Best Little Classroom in Ohio
4. Ideasource
5. Healing Presence
6. Good Neighbor
7. Paradeisos
8. Photography credits and author's interviews

A Paradise in the City is an appropriately titled, unique story of the magnificent Cleveland Botanical Garden (CBG). Word after word, as if in a poem, Diana Tittle describes all integral aspects of CBG, from the unique Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glasshouse, which houses plants from the arid environments of Africa, to the Costa Rican and Japanese gardens. The descriptions and wondrous photographs give us insight into an actual paradise in the city. Ohio residents have access to the rest of the world, essentially, from their own backyard.

Since its inception in 1930, CBG has become one of many leaders in the country. Upon reading this book I, along with many others I'm sure, have instantly become interested in what the garden has to offer. Tittle jumps from one characteristic to another while subtly incorporating actual experiences from people of all ages. There is no doubt that the garden has something to offer every individual whether they are five or seventy-five. In addition, the garden not only presents spectacular floral arrangements but also provides opportunities to learn about how to create your own paradise. Of particular interest to many are the scheduled events held throughout the year. These events range from holiday celebrations, where children can play games in attempt to learn about all types of flowers, to shows where individuals can compete for floral greatness.

CBG, according to the creators of the book, has taken an artistic approach in the overall creation of the gardens. As mentioned earlier, the book contains numerous photographs depicting the features of the grounds. This alone indicates that the book itself is a piece of artwork. Whether interested in CBG or not, the reader will enjoy flipping the pages and witnessing the beauty of the garden as if he or she were actually ambling among its flower laden paths. As can be said of many botanical gardens around the country, CBG appears to be one to definitely consider visiting if you're ever in the area.—*Christian A. Franklin, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 500 East 4th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.*